



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-019100008
Client Ref. No.: 219800526US1

On 5/13/03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KENJI OBARA, et al.

Application No.: 09/743,560

Filed: January 9, 2001

For: SAMPLE OBSERVATION
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Anthony G. Quash

Art Unit: 2881

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800